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Tutors Present Research at International Conference

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TUTORS PRESENT RESEARCH AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
Writing Center Director and Students Present Work in San Diego

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – Eight writing center tutors and director Julie Moore presented research at the International Writing Centers Association Conference in San Diego last October. Most of the students presented capstone projects from Moore's writing center theory and training class, which is a required preparation for all tutors.

Junior English major Michayla Lehman of Ohio presented on tutoring students with Asperger's syndrome and was asked to submit her work to a national writing center journal. Moore said Lehman's contribution is substantial in an area with such little research. "No one has done this in the writing center field," she said.

James Sandberg, a senior English major from Indiana, was the only undergraduate on a panel that discussed metacognition and knowledge transfer. Sandberg said it was humbling to present alongside program coordinators from New Mexico State University and the California Institute of Technology, but the conference provided a valuable opportunity to learn from other writing teachers. "It's a small enough field that you get to interact with some of the top scholars," Sandberg said, "but it's also pretty diverse."

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Senior Sarah Wilson of West Africa wrote a paper for the conference exploring the connections between her major, social work, and skills she uses in the writing center. Wilson formed a panel with juniors Abby Cline of Michigan and Chelsea Musser of Pennsylvania, who discussed the intersections of writing center work with their majors, adolescent and young adult language arts and psychology. Kelsey Newman, a junior finance major from New Hampshire, and Ashley Moore, a junior from the town of Cedarville majoring in history and political science and Spanish, also presented papers, and English major Danielle McDonald of Michigan gave a poster presentation.

Moore, an associate professor of English, said the conference allowed the students to demonstrate their advanced writing, interpersonal and research skills. "It helps establish that the writing center is very serious about what we do," she said. Moore said Cedarville's writing center is set to expand into a writing fellows program, with the first trial beginning in the spring semester.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University attracts 3,400 undergraduate, graduate and online students to more than 100 areas of study. Celebrating 125 years of inspiring greatness, Cedarville is a Christ-centered learning community recognized nationally for rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings. Visit the University online at www.cedarville.edu.

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Photo: tutors.jpg

Photo caption: Eight writing center tutors and director Julie Moore presented papers at the International Writing Centers Association Conference in San Diego in October.

Photo credit: Courtesy of Julie Moore